

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 777

By Haynes

A RESOLUTION honor those gospel performers who will
celebrate their faith through song at the second
Gospel Quartet Convention in Nashville.

WHEREAS, the Tennessee General Assembly is proud to specially recognize and honor the inspirational members of gospel quartets, both past and present, who faithfully serve God and their communities through prayer and praise in song; and

WHEREAS, from the 1920s to the present day, gospel quartets have continued to share their time and talents through glorious dedication in service of God and all His people; and

WHEREAS, in March of 2002, Michael Dickerson, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Quartet Convention, had a vision to bring together gospel quartets and singers in the State of Tennessee to perform songs of praise; and

WHEREAS, this vision became a joyous reality in 2003 and now in 2004, once again Nashville will play host to the second Gospel Quartet Convention, during which many gospel quartets will come together as one to sing the praises of God; and

WHEREAS, the Gospel Quartet Convention salutes the most beloved gospel singers and quartets of the past, including Rosetta Tharpe, Roscoe Shelton, Gene Allison, Candace Staten, Johnny Jones, Jimmy Church, Nina Jones, Margaret Spence, Lucille Barbee, Dr. Morgan Babb, Clarence Kilcrease, The Fairfield Four, the Fireside Singers, the Fisk Jubilee Singers, the LK Singers, the Golden Harps, the Philco Singers, the Gospel Tones, the National Tones, The Famous Skylarks, the Olive Branch Singers, The Spiritual Allstars, the Sons of Glory, The Hebrew Echoes, The Royal Singers featuring Bobby Jones, The Scott Singers, The Harmony Kings, Watson Grove, The Israelite Travellers, Bass Street, The Mighty Redeemers, The Jacocks Brothers, The Spirit of Memphis Group, the Ross Brothers, and many others; and

WHEREAS, the Convention will also acknowledge the gospel groups and performers of today, including local artists Voices of Love, Love & Devotion, Royal Jubilees, Spiritual Messengers, John & the Spiritual Keys, Ross Brothers & Ross Sisters, and the Vessels of Spirit along with special guests Mighty Solomon Aires, Righteous Brothers, Unique Soul, and Thomas Williams and God Messengers; and

WHEREAS, throughout their long and illustrious careers, these gospel performers have earned the respect of their peers and the most sincere admiration of their audience; it is fitting that they should unite now in celebration and in praise of their God; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor and salute the gospel singers and performers, both past and present, who will unite in prayer and song during Nashville's Second Gospel Quartet Convention and extend to them our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.